Damaged Foodgrains

130. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during the year 1999-2000, 2.05 lakh tonnes of foodgrain costing approximately 180 crores were placed on damaged accounts by FCI;

(b) whether it is also a fact that accumulated stock of grains rotting in the godown is to the tune of 10 lakh tonnes and is classified as D category grain which means it is not fit for consumption even by cattle also; and

(c) if so, what steps Government have taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHRIRAM CHAUHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. As on 1.1.2001, a quantity of 1.71 lakh tonnes of 'D' category foodgrains was available with the Food Corporation of India (FCI). 'D' category foodgrains are upgradable through cleaning etc. to make these stocks fit for issue through PDS and other welfare schemes, if economically viable. Damaged foodgrains are categorized as fit for Cattle feed/industrial use/ manure/dumping. There is a laid down procedure for disposal of various categories of damaged foodgrains to the licensed dealers registered with the FCI.

Disposal of surplus Foodgrains

131. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that lakhs of tonnes of foodgrains have been rotting in the godowns of Food Corporation of India for years;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there are plans for this